The Wobbly Oscillator

Cuyahoga Amateur Radio Society

October 2022 Volume 52 Number 10

Hams Who Serve

Look Out Busch- We're Back

From The Prez

David, AC8TN, Outstanding NCS

CARS was blessed to have Dave, AC8TN, step-up and become our newest Net Control Station. On his first net he did an exceptional job. He did everything right. Dave did not make any of the mistakes most of us made on our first few nets, or on many nets down the log. I have been doing CARS nets for over 20 years and seem to make at least one mistake on every net I do.

David, AC8TN

But more importantly, Dave's enthusiasm sparkled his speech throughout the evening. His sincerity listening to, and commenting on those who checked in was so genuine and earnest, it was heartfelt.

If Dave was like most new net controllers, he probably was a bit nervous. If he was, it did not show at all. He came across as cool as the other side of a pillow . We are overjoyed to have Dave on the team of Net Control Stations, and hope he continues for a long, long time.

Nominations

Once again it is time for nominations for our election of Officers and Board Members for 2023; and once again, the plea is the same - anyone wishing to nominate a fellow member for an Officer or Board Member, please do so at the October meeting. We always encourage self-nominations, so if you feel like stepping up to one of the available positions, please jump in and nominate yourself. Most of the Officers have been in place for a lot of years leading one to think a new nominee wouldn't have a chance against a long-standing incumbent. Nothing could be farther from the truth, most of the officers would be glad for a break, it is just that no one wants to take on one of the jobs. To make it even easier, we take nominations right up to the election at the November meeting.

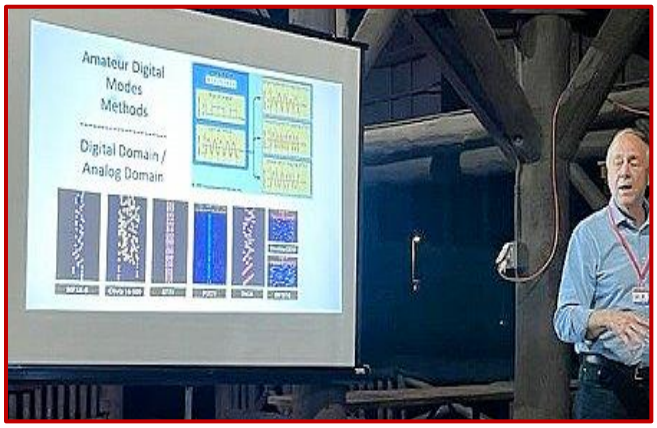
ARRL

Every two years we need to update our ARRL Affiliated Club information. One entry asks how many of our club members are ARRL members. Our master roster lists if a CARS member is also an ARRL member. We usually get this information from the monthly meeting attendance sheet. However, many members do not attend meetings. In an effort to establish accuracy, I am requesting members to contact me with your ARRL status. There is no problem if you are not an ARRL member, it is not a requirement for membership in CARS. We will contact those that do not attend meetings or respond to this request in order to have our affiliated club information as accurate as possible. Your cooperation is most appreciated.

73, Toby, WT8O

Left – The optional extra picnic meeting in September gave us one more beautiful summer evening.

Right – Ron,K8RJH, gave an interesting and informative talk on FT8.



September 2022 Meeting Minutes

LOCATION---The meeting was held September 13th, at the Harriett Keeler Picnic Pavilion in the Brecksville Reservation of the Cleveland Metroparks.

CALLED TO ORDER---The meeting was called to order by President Toby Kolman, WT8O, at 7:30 PM.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE---Those present pledged allegiance to the flag of the United States of America.

INTRODUCTIONS---Those present introduced themselves. 12 individuals attended the meeting, including one guest.

AUGUST MINUTES---The August minutes were approved as published in the *WO*.

NEW MEMBERS---Two new members, Ted Elster, K8TED, and Michael Markwood, who is a licensed ham but has not been issued a call sign yet, were voted into the Club. [*Michael was issued KE8VRF-Ed*] Ted is a charter member of CARS who is rejoining the Club. Welcome Michael and welcome back Ted!

TREASURER'S REPORT---Bob Robbins, K8RGI, reported on the club's current financial situation. No issues or concerns were identified.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT---Toby Kolman, WT8O, reported the following:

- David, AC8TN, is doing a great job as a new net controller. Thanks David!
- When the Club returns to indoor meetings at Busch Funeral Home, please remember to leave the parking spots near the meeting room for those who have trouble walking.
- Duane, KE8HXX (SK), has equipment for sale that was listed in the August *WO*. Please contact Lynn Lorens or Metro, W8MET, to purchase it.
- Thank you to Bob, K8RGI, and John, NU8Y, for their contributions to the *WO*. Please send Toby pictures of your vacations, shack updates or anything else for inclusion in the *WO*.
- Please pay your annual dues and renew your ARRL membership through the Club. Contact Bob, W8GC, with questions on how to pay.
- Please sign in on the sign-in sheet

VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT---Ron Hollas, K8RJH, reported the following:

- The *WO* is getting better every month. Please send Toby, WT8O, your contributions.
- Happy Birthday to the Hiram Percy Maxim Memorial station, W1AW, which was dedicated on September 2, 1938!
- BrandMaster / BrandMeisterWorldwide hotspots require new security options. More information is available in the August 22, 2022 Ohio ARRL Section newsletter.
- The 5th Annual HamExpo is going on this weekend, September 17-18. More information can be found at https://www.qsotodayhamexpo.com/sept2022presentations.html.
- Be sure to update your member info and password on the ARRL website (http://www.arrl.org) to continue uninterrupted browsing.
- The latest ARRL On the Air podcast (episode 32) explores the topic of scanning. The latest ARRL Eclectic Tech podcast (episode 66) features a discussion about VARAC, the new controversial HF digital mode, an innovative antenna design that will be traveling on a NASA mission to Europa and new research exploring the possibility of beaming electric power down to Earth from orbit.
- The Route 66 contest is coming up this week
- Metro, W8MET, and Linda, N8LRS, are representing CARS in the POW / MIA event this month

SECRETARY'S REPORT---Matt Perlman, KE8OZU, had nothing to report.

PUBLIC SERVICE---Ron, K8RJH, reported that there is an ARES meeting on September 20 in Berea at the Helwig Whistle Stop. Volunteer opportunities are available at the Cleveland Hamfest on September 25, including parking cars, selling tickets and setting up trailers. All volunteers will receive free admission to the event, but will not be eligible for the door prizes. Public service opportunities can be found on the N8ESG website (https://n8esg.org/).

Next CARS Meeting

Tuesday, October 11 - 7:30 PM

ARRL Tech Rep
Will Speak on DMR

Busch Community Room

See Website for Details - www.2cars.org

VE UPDATE---Toby, WT8O, reported that the VE session on September 11 resulted in two new technicians. The next CARS VE Session will be on Sunday, November 13, 2022 9:15am at the Old Rec Center in Independence.

PROGRAM COMMITTEE---Joe, KD8BAL, reported the following:

- Today's program is Ron, K8RJH, presenting on FT8
- October's program is to be announced
- Upcoming programs may include DMR in October and the NASA Artemis mission in November
- Please send ideas for programs to Joe

TECH COMMITTEE---Scott, AC8NW, had nothing to report. Toby, WT8O, thanked Vasu Communications for the towers used by the CARS repeater network.

REFRESHMENTS---Toby, WT8O, thanked Ron, K8RJH, for providing soft drinks, Matt, NU8H, for providing doughnuts, and Shawn, KE8RMV, for providing coffee for in person meetings. Coffee is on hold for the summer. The club is considering purchasing a Keurig instead of providing brewed coffee.

OLD BUSINESS---Toby, WT8O, led a discussion on the following:

- The Club needs a historian. Terry, KB8DTC, is the Club Archivist. Recently, Toby and Terry reviewed old records and identified unneeded materials that may be able to be purged. They found the first *WO* during this activity.
- The Club needs a quartermaster. The Club's equipment can be stored at Bob's, W8GC's, rental property in North Royalton. Club equipment is currently stored at Bob's, K8RGI's, house and will be moved to the new location.
- Toby will be reporting on the lack of progress with finding a Club Historian and Club Quartermaster to the Board during the next Board Meeting.
- The Club needs ideas for fundraisers. Please let Toby know if you have any ideas.
- The Club is continuing to build its tool and equipment pool
- The CW class will be taught by David, AC8TN and Ron, K8RJH. Homework will be issued on September 21. The first class will be on October 6. Classes are scheduled for the first and third Thursdays of the month 6:30-7:30 PM at Seven Hills City Hall. Classes will run October 2022-May 2023, for a total of 16 classes. Contact David or Ron to sign up.

NEW BUSINESS---Toby, WT8O, led a discussion on the following:

- David, AC8TN, found the old CARS radio station at the Rainforest in the Cleveland Zoo. The club is considering renewing the station.
- The Club plans to have two tables at the Cleveland
- Hamfest on September 25 8:00 AM-12:00 PM. SK equipment will be available for sale. Volunteers are needed to run the tables.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

TED ELSTER
K8TED

MICHAEL MARKWOOD
KE8VRF

NEXT MEETING---The next meeting of The Cuyahoga Amateur Radio Society will be on October 11, 2022. The meeting is scheduled at the Busch Funeral Home on Ridge Road in Parma, Ohio..

50/50 DRAWING---Mark, WJ8WM, won the 50/50 drawing.

ADJOURNMENT---The meeting was adjourned at 8:14 PM.

After the meeting, Ron, K8RJH, presented on FT8.

Submitted by Matt Perlman, KE8OZU, CARS Secretary

The Thrill of Wireless – Creating a Legacy Ron, K8RJH

Sometimes we may wonder if another relative or past acquaintance has ever experienced the inspiration of Amateur Radio. There is a good chance that many of us know an ancestor that was a practicing wireless operator. In addition, there always is the possibility that one will later learn that there was a family member who was a Ham and simply did not make that interest known outside of immediate family or friends.

In any case, the adventure of learning the call sign held by someone we knew and obtaining understanding of their operating station, practices and contacts can result in a great legacy to behold.

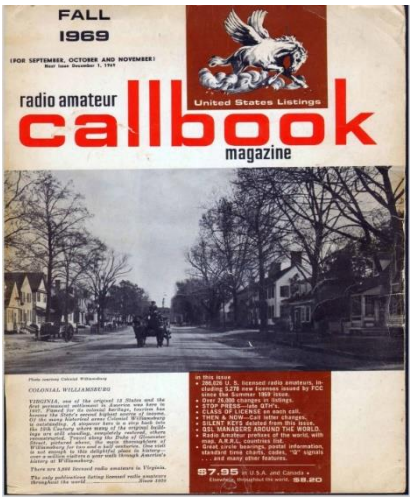
The thrill of wireless

"Wireless is a thrilling pastime. Fancy a boy sitting in his room at home with his fingers on a telegraph key and a telephone receiver to his ear *listening-in* to the news of the world as it is flashed out from the great coast stations or by ships far out at sea! It's a great experience. Yet thousands of boys are doing this wonderful thing every day and night of the year, and you, my young friend, can do it as easily as they, for any boy can own a real wireless station, if he really wants to."

A. Frederick Collins, *The Book of Wireless*, 1915.

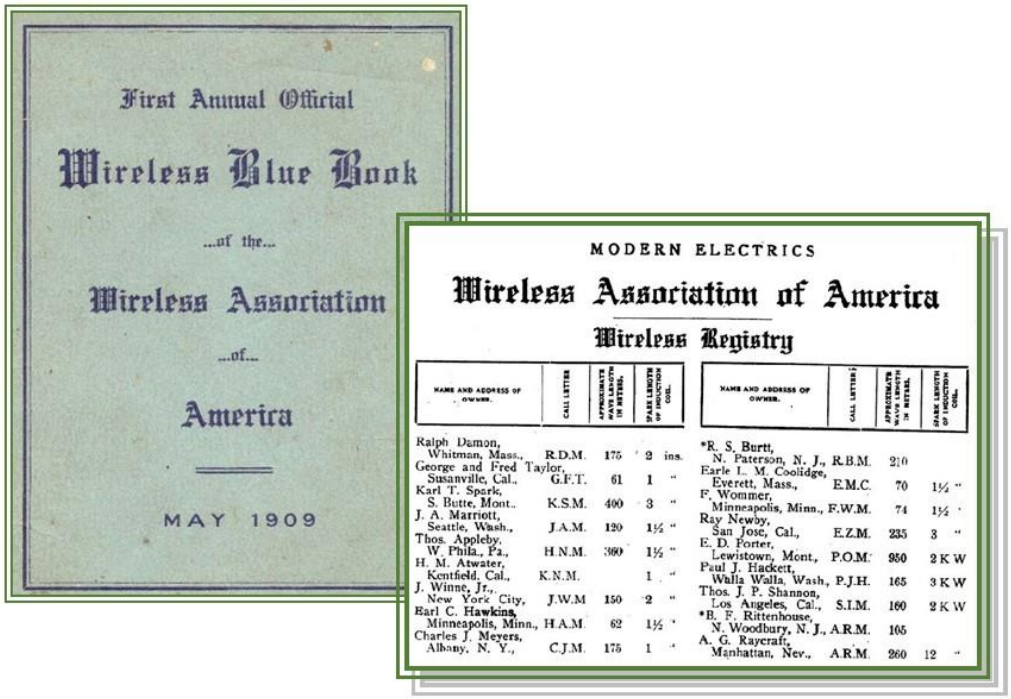
Sketch of a Triumph telegraph key made by J.H.Bunnell & Co in 1906.

Depending on the year when the person was licensed, especially 50 or more years ago, may be a very difficult process discovering their call sign. Today, it is possible to find this information online, and the links at the end of this article can provide some great resources. In order to effectively organize a search, it is important to understand the system used to assign call signs for the time period of interest. For a good background, see the excellent article from the May 1994 issue of QST pages 54-59, available on the ARRL website



Even if you don't know an ancestor to research, the changes of wireless licensing, practices and operating is fascinating to learn. In my case, I was licensed in 1969 and was able to recently download a public domain copy of the Amateur Radio credentials of callsign, name and address.

Back then, this phone book sized publication just cost only $7.95 and was just outside my teenage budget to purchase as a keepsake. I spent my earnings on essentials such as crystals, stamps for QSL cards, and spare parts to keep my CW station on the air. It was popular an amateur to obtain valid addresses for their QSL cards. A current edition was always available at my local public library.


First Annual Official

Wireless Blue Book

...of the...

Wireless Association

...of...

America

MAY 1909

MODERN ELECTRICS

Wireless Association of America

Wireless Registry

NAME AND ADDRESS OF OWNER.	CALL LETTER	APPROXIMATE WAVE LENGTH IN METERS.	SPARK LENGTH OF INDUCTION COIL.
Ralph Damon, Whitman, Mass.,	R.D.M.	175	2 ins.
George and Fred Taylor, Susanville, Cal.,	G.F.T.	61	1 "
Karl T. Spark, S. Butte, Mont.,	K.S.M.	400	3 "
J. A. Marriott, Seattle, Wash.,	J.A.M.	120	1½ "
Thos. Appleby, W. Phila., Pa.,	H.N.M.	360	1½ "
H. M. Atwater, Kentfield, Cal.,	K.N.M.		1 "
J. Winne, Jr., New York City,	J.W.M	150	2 "
Earl C. Hawkins, Minneapolis, Minn.,	H.A.M.	62	1½ "
Charles J. Meyers, Albany, N. Y.,	C.J.M.	175	1 "
*R. S. Burtt, N. Paterson, N. J.,	R.B.M.	210	
Earle L. M. Coolidge, Everett, Mass.,	E.M.C.	70	1½ "
F. Wommer, Minneapolis, Minn.,	F.W.M.	74	1½ "
Ray Newby, San Jose, Cal.,	E.Z.M.	235	3 "
E. D. Porter, Lewistown, Mont.,	P.O.M.	950	2 K W
Paul J. Hackett, Walla Walla, Wash.,	P.J.H.	165	3 K W
Thos. J. P. Shannon, Los Angeles, Cal.,	S.I.M.	160	2 K W
*B. F. Rittenhouse, N. Woodbury, N. J.,	A.R.M.	165	
A. G. Raycraft, Manhattan, Nev.,	A.R.M.	260	12 "

Just 60 years earlier in 1909, the first widely distributed Call Book known as the "Wireless Blue Book" was published by Modern Electrics (M.E.) for the "Wireless Association of America". From this publication states the purpose and requirements about the operator listing.

This department has been started with the idea to bring the wireless amateur in closer touch with commercial land and ship stations. Each month a list of new members will be printed here and once each year an official BLUE BOOK will be issued by MODERN ELECTRICS giving a list of all the members who registered during the year. Each member will receive the Official Blue Book free of charge. The Blue Book will also contain a complete list of commercial and government stations, their call letters, wavelength, etc.

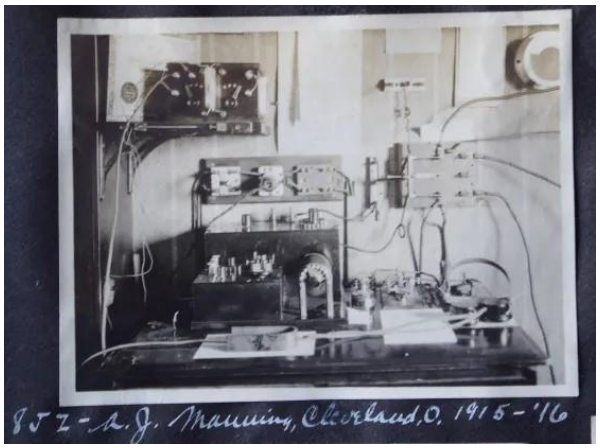
To register a station requires: Total length of aerial (from top to spark balls), spark length, call letter, (if none is in existence M. E. will appoint one) name and address of owner. Fee for Registry (including one Blue Book) 25 cents.

This great resource was popular for many of the wireless operators of the pre-license times and valuable to research who was active and on the air.

Every Amateur will leave a special placeholder in history, simply by their Call Sign. Amateur Radio is a special calling that we all must pursue our interests, using our talents, so we may enjoy the fascination of radio.

It seems that although the technology may evolve over the years, the thrill of the wireless experience remains.

For additional information and resources;
http://w0is.com/oldcallsigns/oldcalls.html
http://www.astrosurf.com/luxorion/qsl-ham-history2.htm
https://leehite.org/callbooks/



Radio Station 8JZ, Cleveland Ohio 1915

September VE Session

Once again, Metro, W8MET, competently led his outstanding VE team consisting of Gary, NI8Z; George, K8KR; Roger, N8TCP, and Linda, N8LRS to another successful VE Session on Sunday September 11, 2022, at the Old Elmwood Recreation Center in Independence.

Two hams passed their Technician exams becoming licensed amateurs. Congratulations to Michael Markwood, KE8VRF, and Joseph Weatherby IV, KE8VQX, and welcome to the Amateur Radio Service.

The next VE testing session will be held Sunday, November 13th, at **9:15 AM*** at the Old Elmwood Recreation Center, 6200 Pete Wisniesky Parkway, Independence 44131. Directions and a map are on the CARS website homepage. For information or an appointment please contact Metro, W8MET, at 216-520-1320 or metro351@sbcglobal.net

As always, walk-ins are welcome.

***Please note time change to 9:15 AM.**

Ohio State Parks on the Air

Bob, K8RGI

The Ohio State Parks on the Air event was held this year on Saturday, September 10th. It is always the first Saturday after Labor Day. The event runs from 10:00 AM to 6:00 PM and the goal is to work as many other stations as you can. Other Ohio State Parks are multipliers. Again, this year my brother, Richard, WA8RR, and I traveled to Put-in-Bay to activate two parks, South Bass Island and Oak Point State Parks.

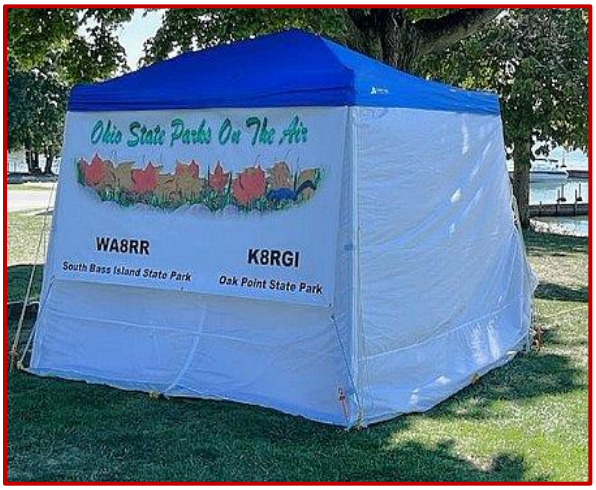
We arrived Friday morning and after having lunch we started setting up. This year Richard had "another" new antenna for 40 and 80 meters. This one was a NIVIS, Near Vertical Incidence Sky Wave Antenna. The center support is only 15 feet high, but it has a large footprint since each leg is 45 feet long. It is not resonant and therefore requires an antenna tuner. After setting up the canopy we were able to make several contacts on 40 meters but nothing on 80. This took all afternoon.

Bob, K8RGI, and twin brother Richard, WA8RR, happily operated the Ohio State Parks-on-the-Air event under perfect weather conditions.

After dinner we started setting up my flagpole inverted V antenna that I have used for many years. This antenna allows me to work 80 through 15 meters. We had the pole extended and were about to raise the antenna when an anchor pulled out of the ground and the 35-foot pole fell over with a thud. Thank goodness no one was hurt, and the pole was undamaged. The ground at the South Bass Island state park is very rocky and doesn't go down more than several inches before hitting solid rock. On our second attempt we added a set of guy lines at about 25 feet to provide additional support. After testing the antenna with an analyzer, we called it a night.

Saturday we were back at the site early and got all our equipment setup and made contacts on all the bands to make sure everything was working OK. One of the things we learned from last year's event was that we needed filters on our transceivers. This made all the difference, and we had no interference problems. The contest started at 10:00 AM. The weather was perfect, and we proceeded to make a lot of contacts. I worked many pileups. 40 meters was our go to band and where we made most of our contacts. Both antennas performed well. One of the lessons we learned this year was that Richard needed to somehow add 20 and 15 meters to his antenna plan. It just was not possible to switch antennas between our transceivers during the contest.

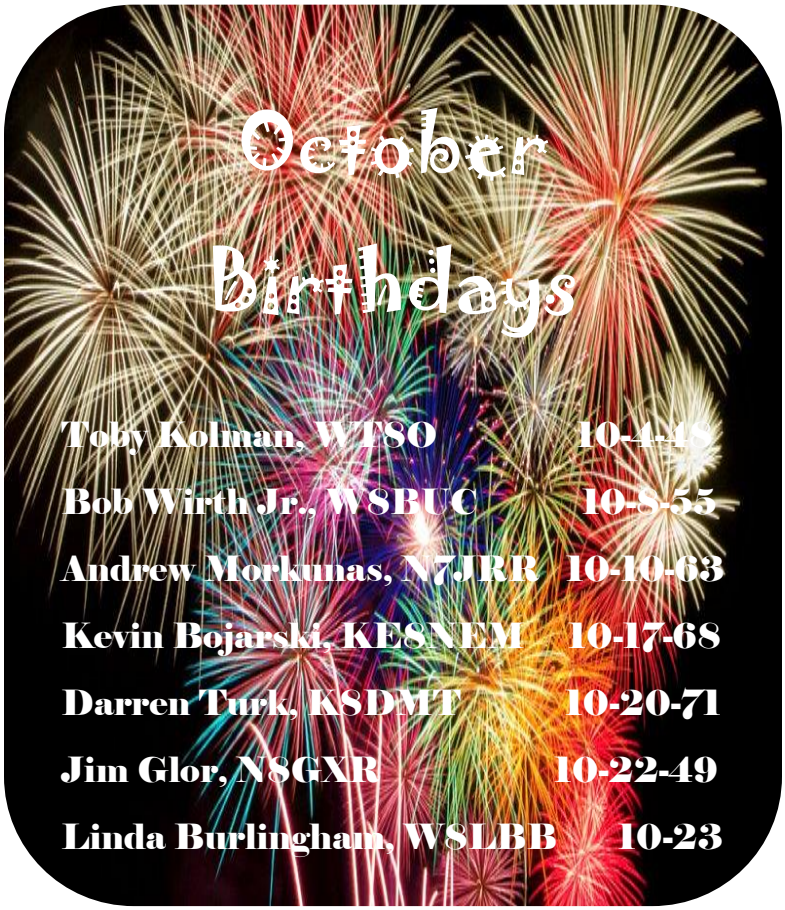
(L) The station setting was one picturesque site on the Lake Erie shoreline.



(R) The tent publicized the details for interested onlookers.

The contest ended at 6:00 PM and we had everything torn down and in our cars by 7:30 PM. Our preliminary results were very good. Richard had made 171 contacts and worked 43 state parks. I had made 317 contacts and worked 48 state parks. This is by far the best we have ever done. There are a total of 77 state parks but only about 52 were activated.

Next year the Ohio State Parks on the Air is on September 9th. We are already making plans to do it again.



IT'S UNWISE TO PAY TOO MUCH...BUT IT'S WORSE TO PAY TOO LITTLE. WHEN YOU PAY TOO MUCH, YOU LOSE A LITTLE MONEY - THAT IS ALL. WHEN YOU PAY TOO LITTLE, YOU SOMETIMES LOSE EVERYTHING, BECAUSE THE THING YOU BOUGHT WAS INCAPABLE OF DOING THE THING IT WAS BOUGHT TO DO.

JOHN RUSKIN

LDG-One Fantastic Company
Toby, WT8O

I must share one of the best experiences I've ever had with a manufacturing company. My nineteen-year-old LDG AT-200 Pro tuner gave up the ghost, probably the result of a lightning strike that damaged some of my radio equipment.

I wanted to send it back to LDG for a repair estimate. I hit a roadblock. Their website was not working, and their phone number went to a nonrelated residence. I inquired with all the big suppliers such as DX Engineering and HRO. DXE did some checking and reported a forum said LDG's website was hacked. There were blurbs on the internet about LDG being out of business. On top of that, they did not have an advertisement in *QST* the last two months. Yikes!

A few weeks ago, I tried their website again. A new one-page website came up with an email address for customer support. I got a speedy response saying most out of warranty repairs cost about $50.00; included was a repair form and shipping instructions. A week after I sent the tuner in, I received an email saying my unit was "DOA" and it would be replaced. Two days later a brand-new AT-200 Pro II was delivered, NO CHARGE.

That's what I call phenomenal service. I would not hesitate to recommend LDG to anyone interested in buying an automatic tuner.

October Net Sked

OCT	5	AC8NW
OCT	12	AC8TN
OCT	19	WT8O
OCT	26	K8RJH

Nets are run every Wednesday at 9:00 PM on:

146.820 (PL 110.9)

443.825(+) PL Tone 131.8
Digital Yaesu Fusion
Linked to the 146.82 Repeater

EchoLink Node 343470 (K8ZFR-R)

Allstar Node 47067

For Sale

MOTOROLA Portables, mobiles, and base stations XTS-5000's/XTS-2500's & XTL-5000's/ XTL-2500's in 2 M (136-174), 70 CM (380-470), 7/800 MHz, and 900 MHz, with or without selectable hardware.

Encryption AES-256, AES-GCM, DES-XL, DES-OFB ADP algorithms available. APX-6000& APX-6500 7/800 MHz Mobiles and Portables.

Prices will depend on options or accessories needed. Have most accessories &hardware required for use and/or installation with radios, such as batteries, chargers, cables, and vehicle chargers - new and used available.

Trunked system programming also for sale.

Call or text Mark, KC8ESG @ 440-465-2878
markrosewicz@yahoo.com

At left, a prospective buyer learns about CARS talking to Toby, WT8O: Vince, N8OVW; John, NU8Y, and Terry, KB8DTC at the Cleveland Hamfest. CARS had two tables of equipment for sale, a club display board, and CARS and ARRL handouts.

Honorary Members

Any person who by nature of outstanding or meritorious contribution to the furtherance of amateur radio and the ideals of the Cuyahoga Amateur Radio Society

Robert Check, W8GC
Elected 2/10/15

Thomas Wayne, WB8N
Elected 1/10/17

Dwaine Modock, K8ME, SK
Elected 5/9/17

Toby Kolman, WT8O
Elected 10/10/17

Jerry Smith, NW9H
Elected 5/8/18

Ron Borkey, K8VJG, SK
Elected 5/14/19

Ed Stevens, WB8ROK, SK
Elected 8/10/21

CARS Repeaters

146.820 (-) PL Tone 110.9

Analog Repeater

Main Site – Brecksville

Receive Only Site – Brunswick

Receive Only Site – Shaker Hts.

Allstar Node 47067

EchoLink Node 343470 (K8ZFR-R)

****

443.825 (+) PL Tone 131.8

Digital Yaesu Fusion

Linked to 146.820 Repeater

Brecksville

****

444.75 (+) PL Tone 131.8

Analog Repeater

Not Linked to Other Repeaters

Shaker Hts.

The *Wobbly Oscillator* is a publication of the Cuyahoga Amateur Radio Society, P.O. Box 31264, Independence, Ohio, 44131-0264. Articles from this publication may be reprinted in any ham radio publication, if credit is given to this publication and the author, if known. All submissions should be emailed to: wt8o@att.net

CARS 2022 Officers & Committees

Audit
K8RJH ** WT8O, WJ8WM

Audio/Video
AC8NW **

ARRL Liaison
K8RJH **

Awards
W8GC ** WT8O

Christmas party & Summer Picnic
WJ8WM **, K8ARP, KD8FTU, KD8FTV

Field Day
K8RGI **, WT8O, K8ARP, KD8SCV, AC8NW, AC8TN, WT8O, K8RJH, N8BBB food

50/50
KD8SCV

Hamvention Bus
KD8FTS **

License classes
KD8ACO **, WT8O, K8SHB

Media Representative
KD8SCV

Membership
WT8O ** W8GC

NET
WT8O **

Newsletter
WT8O ** 440-525-6109
wt8o@att.net

Programs at Meetings
KD8BAL ** KD8FTS, KE8OZU

Property Custodian's
KB8DTC records, W8GC equipment

Public Services
KD8FTS **, K8ARP

QSL Manager - W8HBI, W8BM
WB8N **

Refreshments at Meetings & Picnic
K8RJH ** pop, NW8X ** Donuts, KE8RMV *** Coffee

Scholarship
W8GC ** K8RGI, KE8OZU, WT8O, K8RJH

Sunshine (welfare)
Andy, KD8SCV ** 440-886-0723

Technical
AC8NW ** N8OVW, WJ8WM, KD8ACO, K8RJH, KB8DTC

VE Exams
Metro, W8MET ** 216-520-1320

Web Master/e-mail
W8GC **

** chairman or co-chairman

2022 Officers

PRESIDENT
Toby Kolman WT8O 440-525-6109
wt8o@att.net

VICE-PRESIDENT
Ron Hollas, K8RJH, 216-379-7440

SECRETARY
Matt Perlman, KE8OZU, 216-337-1540
Alternate Secretary:

TREASURER:
Bob Check W8GC 216-524-1750
Alternate Treasurer: Bob Robbins, K8RGI

Board Members & License Trustees

Board Chairman:
Mark Moro WJ8WM 216-661-0342

even year executive board 2 year term
AC8NW, KB8DTC, WJ8WM

odd year executive board 2 year term
K8RGI, K8ARP, KD8FTS

License trustee
K8ZFR
WT8O

License trustee
W8HBI, W8BM,
W8GC

February 5, 2022